WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE) : (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education, 1986 envisages requiring every student to paticipate in one or other of the existing schemes such as the National Service Scheme, National Cadet Corps etc. While students are being encouraged to participate in such schemes and sports, participation has not been made mandatory.

Research Institutes attached to ICSSR

645. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) what was the main objective of setting up the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) ;

(b) what is the number of the Research Institutes attached to ICSSR in the country :

(c) the annual funds allocated to the ICSSR and percentage of the allocation spent on the attached Research Institutes;

(d) whether Government have made any assessment of the working of ICSSR and its attached Research Centres to find out whether the objectives have been achieved and whether there is any utility in their continuation ; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Indian Council of Social Science Research was estiblished primarily for coordination and promotion of social science research in the country. Broadly, its objectives are :

(i) Financing of Research Projects ;

(ii) Awarding of Research Fellowships;

(iii) Providing maintenance and development grants to research institutes ;

(iv) International collaboration ;

(v) Publication of selected Social Science literature ;

(vi) Developing centres for documentation service ;

(vii) Organising, sponsoring financing seminars and workshops.

(b) The Council provides financial support to 26 research institutes which have been approved under its Grant-in-aid Scheme.

(c) The grant given to ICSSR during 1990-91 was Rs. 283·84 lakhs (Plan) and Rs. 420·78 lakhs (Non-Plan). 46% of total grants were spent on research institutes.

(d) and (e) While Covernment has not appointed any Committee to examine the working of either the Council or Research Institutes, it has representatives on the Council and its various Committees viz. Planning and Administration Committee, Research Institutes Committee etc. and keeps itself apprised of its functioning which has generally been satisfactory. The Council, from time to time, appoints Special Visiting Committees to review the work of the Research Institutes which receive grant-in-aid from it.

Agitation by Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Government Schools

646. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will he Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that teachers of all Kendriya Vidyalayas and Government Schools in Delhi have been on Dharna and hunger strike from last week of January, 1992 to 20th February, 1992 protesting against their deployment in Punjab for election duty;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no teaching work has been done in all Kendriya Vidyalayas and Government Schools from 27th January to 20th February, 1992;

(c) whether it is also a fact that courses of Secondary classes have not been completed and no revision of subjects has been done where courses have been completed;

(d) whether this has affected the studies of students of secondary levels appearing for final examinations in March, 1992;

(e) whether Covernment propose to postpone the annual examinations for another 15 days to enable students to make good of the strikes and dharnas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUR SINGH) : (a) Some teachers of Delhi Administration Schools had been on hunger strike from 4th February to